Forest Service

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News Release



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West Government Creek Fire Update September 5

Salt Lake City, Utah, September 5, 2016, 12 PM— West Government Creek Fire is a lightning caused fire that started on Friday, September 2, approximately 10 miles southwest from the Town of Vernon, Utah on the Uinta Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Fire is at 4,244 acres in size with 5% containment and actively burning in grass, sagebrush and Juniper vegetation.

Fire behavior from yesterday was minimal with isolated and group torching activity. Crews yesterday were able to use helicopters to assist with fire hot spots. Operations for today include: Holding, patrolling and mopping up containment lines on the lower west side and crews will be scouting for hand line construction on the east side of the fire. Most active portion of the fire is located on the northeast ridge.

Due to steep rocky inaccessible terrain at the northeast ridge, firefighters will be monitoring fire progression and making potential plans in case the fire moves down slope. Smoke is expected to be visible from the Town of Vernon.

Road closures in effect: Erickson Pass Road and Little Valley Road. People are encouraged to stay clear of the fire area and roads for their safety.

Fire is burning on BLM, School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA), Forest Service, and private land. Agencies responding to this fire include fire personnel from the Forest Service, BLM, BIA, National Park Service, City of Layton, City of Syracuse, Utah Fire, and State Forestry resources. Current resources include, four Hotshot crews, three Type 2 crews, four helicopters, five engines, five water tenders, and two dozers.



Estimated personnel at scene is around 250.

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Photo1: Morning photo of the West Government Creek Fire taken on September 5th, 2016.